

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

October 2013 – Week 1

Air Date: September 29 – October 5 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: DEADLY SUSPICION

OCTOBER 1862 AND IT'S A REBEL WITCHHUNT.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

OCTOBER 1, 1862. GAINESVILLE. VOTING AGAINST SECESSION, NORTH TEXAS IS A BASTION FOR UNIONISM. SOME EVEN WANT TO SECEDE FROM TEXAS AND REJOIN THE U.S.

WHEN RUMORS SPREAD THAT A SECRET UNION GROUP IS PLOTTING REVOLT, CONFEDERATE LEADERS ACT.

TODAY, COL. JAMES BOURLAND ROUNDS UP 150 UNIONISTS SUSPECTED OF TREASON. A "CITIZENS COURT" IS CONVENED, AND FOUR DAYS LATER SEVEN UNIONISTS ARE HUNG. AN IMPATIENT MOB HANGS FOURTEEN MORE. AFTER A CONFEDERATE LEADER IS SHOT, NINETEEN MORE HANG IN GAINESVILLE, FIVE IN DECATUR, AND FIVE IN SHERMAN.

THE GREAT HANGING AT GAINESVILLE IS ONE OF THE WORST VIGILANTE ACTS IN U.S. HISTORY.

THE VIOLENCE BEGAN 151 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Richard B. McCaslin, "GREAT HANGING AT GAINESVILLE," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/jig01>), accessed September 19, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Richard B. McCaslin, "BOURLAND, JAMES G.," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fbo38>), accessed September 19, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Walter L. Buenger, "SECESSION," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/mgs02>), accessed September 26, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

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